

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 24, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

As Members who represent sectors of the liquid fuels supply chain, we write in strong opposition to the December 8, 2021, Executive Order 14057, which would require federal agencies to purchase exclusively “zero emission” vehicles (ZEVs) by 2035. This order ignores the challenges presented with forcing a single-technology approach to the federal government’s vehicle procurement. It also completely disregards the opportunities presented to reduce both cost and emissions immediately through traditional and emerging liquid motor fuels. We are extremely disappointed by your decision relating to ZEVs.

EO 14057 directs federal agencies to buy *only* ZEVs by 2035, with light-duty acquisitions transitioning as soon as 2027. Under current market conditions, ZEVs are comprised primarily of battery-powered electric vehicles (EVs), but the goal of a cleaner fleet cannot be realized without improving the performance of the existing vehicle fleet, which is overwhelmingly comprised of internal combustion engines (ICE) vehicles. This order overlooks the ability for high-octane liquid fuels to assist substantially in the efficiency improvements to the country’s transportation sector that your Administrations aims to achieve. Clean liquid motor fuels, like ethanol, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel, can make substantial contributions to national security and sustainability. Biofuel manufacturers are developing carbon capture projects designed to reduce the carbon intensity of ethanol and are working to continue reducing emissions in the near future.

Collectively, the above technologies and investments made by all areas of the liquid fuels supply chain provide immediate environmental benefits, support our domestic economy, and bolster our national security. Respectfully, instead of signing orders that will be costly, may have a slight carbon emission reduction over fifteen years away, and bolster our greatest foreign adversary (China), you ought to be turning to the liquid fuel sector for real solutions.

In addition to ignoring the benefits of liquid motor fuels, Executive Order 14057’s single-technology approach ignores other key challenges our country is facing. In the past year, our country has fought a pandemic, countless natural disasters that have strained our energy grid, and cybersecurity attacks on our critical fuel supply. At a time as volatile as this, it is inappropriate and irresponsible to make sweeping decisions that increase energy dependence on our greatest international threat.

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The EO also undermines our national security – both in terms of energy independence and countering our adversaries. The current US-China relationship is tense at best, and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) poses a major threat to human rights and global security. Almost all critical materials required to manufacture EVs are sourced from China or countries where China is a significant investor and influence. As a result, this executive order creates a dependency on foreign adversaries, neglects fuel innovation, and will fail to have a significant impact on carbon emissions for decades.

Use of federal procurement authority should be reserved for changes that enhance the efficiency of federal acquisition and the national interest. But in this case, by mandating the use of EVs while ignoring the cost and emissions benefits of liquid motor fuels, the executive order risks reducing the cost-effectiveness of procurement while increasing threats to national security and the environment.

We urge you to rescind Executive Order 14057 to achieve the clear benefits of innovative liquid motor fuels.

Respectfully,



Ashley Hinson

Member of Congress



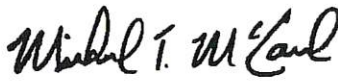
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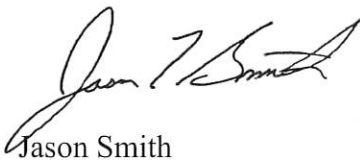
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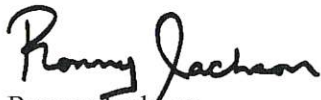
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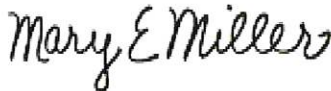
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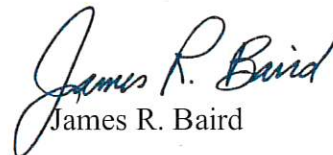
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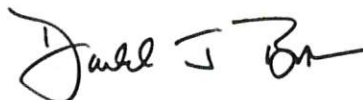
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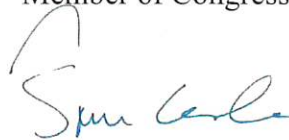
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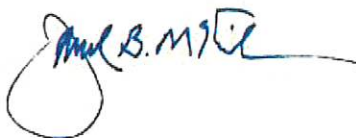
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